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MARYEL BULLPEN BULLETINS . MARVEL BULLPEN BULLETINS . MARVEL BULLPEN BULLETINS

# WELCOME TO THE WONDERFUL, WAY-OUT WORLD OF MARVEL MADNESS!

We're cramped for space this ish, so we'll make it short and sweet -

ITEM! You've heard how comedians always dream of playing Hamlet? Well, Trusty TOM SUTTON, who's been one of the humorous mainstays of NOT BRAND ECHH, has always wanted to tackle pencilling a super-hero strip. And so we urge you to latch on to this month's CAPTAIN MARVEL – new artwork – new approach – new thrills – but the same of loveable Tom, just a'doin' his thing!

ITEM! Big news! We've some brand new mags coming up for you next month! They're in the spooky story and the romance categories — and all in the modern, meaningful Marvel manner. So save your money, bunny, and go easy on luxuries like food, clothing, and shelter. Watch these pages next ish and be ready for anything!

ITEMI Oidja notice the new MARVEL, SUPER-HEROES? Nothing to get excited about — all it contains is some honest-to-forbush Lee-Kirby AVENGERS, featuring the HULK, THOR, IRON MAN, SUB-MARINER — plus Lee-Kirby's X-MEN, and a few more surprises! If it's already sold out, now you know why!

FTEMI Generous GEORGIE KLEIN finally took the plunge and got himself wedded a few weeks ago – after one of the longest engagements on record – a mere 18 years! One thing we've gotta say about oi' George – he'd be okay if he weren't so impetuous!

mention record albums we've heard ofit's the new MOTHER EARTH smasheroo, 
entitled "Living with the Animals", and 
the very first number is called "Marvel 
Group"! (Ta ta ta ta, ta ta:) Twas penned 
by vocalist POWELL ST. JOHN, and brought 
te our attention by manager TRAVIS 
RVVERS, who personally gave us a few 
complimentary copies! Many thanks, gang 
it's the wildest!

ITEM! No more items! (Nyahhh!)

#### THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST Marveloos Mags On Sale Right Now!

SILVER SURFER ±7: Once again the name of FRANKENSTEIN spreads fear throout the land—and only the SILVER SURFER can save mankind from the strangest threat of all!

FANTASTIC FOUR #89: The return of the dreaded SKRULLS! But this time, it isn't merely earth that's in dire danger — the target for an unmentionable fate is — the unsuspecting THING!

SPIDER-MAN #75: From out of nowhere, a startling sudden DEATH now strikes without warning — even as a newer, more fearful SUPER-FOE arises once more to menace our weary web-stinger!

CANADA TO A PLAN DATE.

#### STAN'S SOAPBOX

As you've already noticed, the price of our magniloquent mags has just risen from 12¢ to 15¢ . . . but far be it from us to make so monumental a move without cluing you in to the whys and wherefores. At a time when the prices of just about everything you can think of lust about everything you can tilling of keep rising daily, our mighty Marvels have been holding the line at 12¢ for the past seven years! However, in our never-ending efforts to bring you nothing but the very best, we have regularly increased the payments that we make to artists, writers, printers, etc. It's finally reached the point where we MUST raise our selling price to 15¢ or sacrifice the quality of our comics - and THAT we would never do. That's the whole ball of wax. it. Believer . But now, let's look at the bright side today you can buy your majestic Marcause you vel mags even faster . . . cause you don't have to fumble around with pennies! Just another glowing example of how we strive eternally to make your life easier.

Excalsion!

AVENGERS #66: The one you've been waiting for! THOR and IRON MAN return to the ranks! But, can even they prevail when the vengeful VISION goes wild? Plus a cataclysmic surprise ending!

X-MEN #58: The sinister SENTINELS seem on the verge of total victory over earth's mutants — then, enter the X-Men; and the mysterious man called . . . . HAVOK! It's a brain-blaster!

DAREDEVIL 254: From out of the perilladen past — with the one power which DD cannot fight — comes the macabre MR. FEAR! Also — the seeming death of Matt Murdock! Shock follows shock!

MIGHTY THOR #166: At last the GOD OF THUNDER loses his cool and goes berserk! If it's action you're after, don't miss this staggering showdown between THOR and #HIM!

CAPTAIN AMERICA #116: Never has the RED SKULL been more powerful - or CAP more helpless! Trapped by the COSMIC CUBE - there can be no escape! Not for the faint-hearted!

INCREDIBLE HULK #118: Green-Skin battles the sensational SUB-MARINER! What more need we say — except to tell you that STAN THE MAN and HAPPY MERBIE TRIMPE bought a dozen each themselves!

IRON MAN #116: The most unexpected team-up of all — Shellhead and the uncanny UNICORN — against the rampaging RED GHOST! And wait'll you learn how ol' Ghosty plans to conquer the world!

SUB-MARINER #16: We call this one "The Sea That Time Forgot!" — but you'll never forget what happens when Namor clashes with the evil TIGER SHARK — in the weirdest setting yet!

CAPTAIN MARVEL #15: Mission — Destroy the Kree Galaxy! This is the awesome command of the almighty ZO to the man called Mar-Vell — and that's just the beginning! A must!

SGT, FURY #68: Ever wonder if our stogie smokin' sarge had a family? Well, you're gonna MEET 'em — in this ish! But, if you think that's ALL that's going to happen forget it!

CAPT. SAVAGE #15: "Within the Temple Waits. Death!" And, as a matter of fact, the whole Indo-Chinese jungle is crawling with danger for our Raider buddies! Dig an offbeat war mag? This is it!

COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS #22: Want more of the F.F. — Dr. Strange — and Iron Man? You got it! PLUS, a bombshell bonus — the very first appearance of Henry Pym the ANT-MAN!

RAWHIDE KID #71: The most dreaded cry of all is heard on the frontier: "Indian War!" It's Rawhide at his sluggin', sixshootin' best - against the most deadly enemy in the West!

MILLIE THE MODEL #173 and CHIL1 #4: Here we are again, with two of the zingiest, zaniest, zilchiest ha-ha mags in town! They're glamorous, groovy, and goofy! Try 'em!

MAD ABOUT MILLIE #3: Twice as much Millie-madness for less than twice the price! How can you miss? It's worth the cost alone to see how often Smiley's name appears?

#### AND STILL ON SALE -

SMIELD ±13: A nation writhes in the merciless grasp of . . . the SUPER-PATROTT: And Nick Fucy is helpless to strike back -because he's een branded a traitort Don't miss it!

DR. STRANGE #181: Our magical mentor is defeated in mystic battle — not by the harowing hordes of NIGHTMARE — but by the awesome power of his own cloak and amulet! A must!

MARVEL SUPER-HEROES =21: The superhero thrill of a lifetime! The original AVEN-GERS battling SUB-MARINER and the incredible HULK — also, a Lea-Kirby X-MEN epic extraordinaire! Plus — but that would be telling!

MARVEL TALES #21: Thor - the Human Torch - and Spidey makes three! And, in case you hadn't guessed - we're throwing a sinister super-baddle or two at you. as well! Bargain days are here again!



FROM MARVEL! WATCH FOR 'EM--- 'NUFF SAID!



Don Bolander, M.A., University of Chicago; B.S., Northwestern University; Director of Career Institute; authority on adult education

If you've ever been shamed by a mistake in English, maybe I can save you from years of disappointment.

I have met countless numbers of intelligent men and women who are being held back in their jobs and social lives, often without knowing it, because they cannot express themselves fully and easily.

#### WHAT ABOUT YOU?

If people are not impressed by the way you speak and write-jand if you're honest enough with yourself to admit it—you have already taken the first big step to success.

#### HERE'S WHAT TO DO

You can master good English without going back to school. Over the years I have helped thousands of men and women right in their own homes.

I can help you, too, if you will give 15 minutes a day to the C. I. Method. My answers to the following questions explain why you need a command of good English and how easily you can do something about getting ahead.

Question: What is so important about my ability to speak and write?

# Shamed by Your English?

You can soon speak and write like a college graduate if you let me help you for 15 minutes a day.

Answer: People judge you by the way you speak and write, both in business and in social life.

Question: What does a "command of good English" mean?

Answer: It means you can express yourself clearly and easily without fear of embarrassment or making mistakes.

Question: Are there other advantages to be gained by acquiring a command of good English?

Answer: Yes! Words are actually "tools of thought."
The more you learn about words and how to use them to form and express your ideas, the better your thinking becomes.

Question: Wouldn't I have to go back to school for a command of good English? Answer: No, not any more.
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college graduate right in
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Question: How can I find out more about the Career Institute Method?

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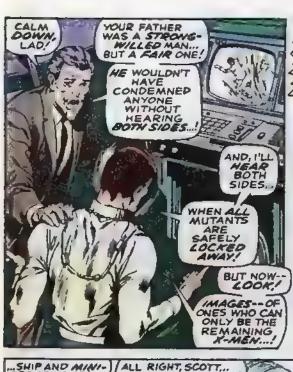




















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ADDRESS YOUR LETTERS TO NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

Roy Thomas is back at the helm — and Marveldom As-sembled breathes a sigh of relief! At last, the X-Men are as great as they used to bel It's almost as though Stan himself had taken a hand in the mutants' affairs. At long last, five real people, not five Shakespeare-spouting weirdos, have regained dominion of a book that was rapidly becoming a laughing stock.

I was seriously considering discontinuing my reading of the X-MEN and even Marvel, but now the once-last Marvel madness has made a miroculous pull-through . . . and all such thoughts were driven from my mind. Roy is writing a tramendous (and superbly scripted) amount of issues these days, so can't you Stan, or Gary, or maybe the underworked Archie give the poor co-editor a hand by taking over duties on the AVENGERS or DD yourself? My thanks for your time - and the X-MEN renaissance.

Nils Osmar, 1504 N. 85th St. Seattle, Wash. 98103

And Rescally Rey said to thank you for the kind words, Nils . . . but, if it's akey with you, he says he'd just as soon keep turning out the DAREDEVIL and AVENGERS years as well. (Or didn't you know that, in addition to his associate-editor chores, the el' rapscullen is paid by the page?)

In fact, now that nefacious Neal Adoms is at the ertwork helm, we kind's suspect that Smiley himself would have to Indian-wrestle Mr. T. in order to hand ever the writing of X-MEN to anybody else. Anyway, it leaks from here as if, at long-awaited last, our merry, misunderstood mutants have found the team supreme in Roy, Neal, and terrific Tom Palmer . . . and we hope it stays that way till Bobby Drake has a long, freety

Dear Stan, Arn, and?,

I was displeased by X-Men #53 for two reasons. First, the artwork of Barry Smith simply doesn't hold a candle to Steranko or Roth, Second, the X-Men did not even take off their masks during the entire story. Is this Marvel, the company famous for featuring the troubled alter-ego?

Marvel is famous for having tons of thought balloons showing the inner feelings of the hero (or the villain, or even the supporting character) but in X-Men #53, there were only two of them!

Make Lorna Dane on X-Manifi The Reasons:

 She has a power none of the others has. 2) When the Prof started the school for good mutants, he intended to search out other mutants and convince them to use their Powers for good. (See the issues in which they try to get Wando and Pettro, the Blob and Spidey to join.)

3) She looks like a swinging chickl

4) My favorite color is green. 5) Marvel Girl would have another girl to talk to.

6) If Cyclops can have Jean, why can't iceman have Lorna? Jerry Sinkover, 4020 North 25th St. Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53209

All good and sound reasons for making Lorna an X-Man, or X-Lady, or whatever! But now, what about Scott's super-charged sibling Alex — etherwise hereinafter known as Havok? What say you, Marvelites? Should the X-Men make the jump from five members to six, or even seven?

(As a matter of fact, we've already got some idea en the subject ourselves that may shake and surprise you - but we can't resist still throwing the subject open to debate, if only to see hew many of you subjusse. us again!)

Dear Stan,

BEST SINGLE STORY: #34 . . . "War . . . in a World of

Dorkness!" BEST SERIAL: #37-39 — "X-Men vs. Factor 3"

BEST COVER: a) X-Men #51

b) X-Men #31 c) X-Men #26

**BEST ARTIST: Werner Roth** 

**BEST WRITER. Roy Thomas** BEST VILLAIN(S): a) Magneto

b) Sentinels

**BEST INKER: John Verpoorten** MOST COLORFUL CHARACTER: a) Cyclops

b) Angel BEST SUPPORTING CHARACTER: a) Ted Roberts

b) Mimic

**BEST ANNUAL: Guess What ?????** BEST LEAD-IN: a) X-Men #45

b) Avengers #53

**BEST EDITOR: Stan Lee** BEST NON-ENTITY: a) Inv Forbush

b) Non-Believers

So, waddaya think, Bullpen? RFO, TTB, KOF Bruce Smith, 111-27 143 St. Jamaica, New York 11435

We think your choices are well taken, chum — although, naturally, probably every mutant-lover in Mar-veldom (and there are obviously quite a few) would differ with you on one or more points!

But, if we may permit eurselves to return only me-mentarily to the supposed immodesty of which we've oft been accused by uncomprehending souls, may we state that we think you yourself may soon throw away that list of favorite stories — when you've seen what lies ahead! Bet, Bruce?



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(Keeper Ot the Flame) - One who recruits a newcomer to Marvel's rollickin' ranks. K.O.F.

P.M.M. (Permanent Marvelite Maximus) -- Anyone pos-sessing all four of the other titles.

(Fearless Front-Facer) — An honorary title be-stowed for devotion to Marvel above and beyond the call of duty.

Dear Stan and the Gana.

I am completely disappointed in you as far as the X-Men are concerned. No. 53 was a flop, Nowhere. Nothing. (You get the idea? I didn't like it!) Despite all the changes in the X-Men I still considered it to be my favorite mag.

To start with, Arnold Drake just can't capture the X-Men the way Roy Thomas could. The humanism is gone. Once, one could distinguish the differences in the personalities. Now these differences are lacking. I won't go into this because you know what the differences are yourselves. There were several discrepancies in Blastaar's little soliloquy. For instance, Blastaar said he was exiled to an empty casmas, the Negative Zone. Well, I've got news for you; he originally came from the Negative Zone, which is populated with monsters and intelligent people, as depicted in the FFI Blastaar also said, "Before me hongs the green jewel called earth, taunting me like some beckoning bauble." As I recall, he said in the FF that earth was a very primitive planet. Now why would he call earth a green jewel when he thought it was primitive?

Now to get down to the art, if you can call it that. It seems that with the overload of so many new mags, the newcomer's potentials can't be tested. I never heard of Barry Smith before and I hope I don't hear of him again. If he was trying to imitate "King" Kirby he did a bad job of it. I never saw the X-Men look so bad. Jean's arms and ankles were toothpicks. Likewise with Angel and iceman.

Nobody draws Bobby and the rest the way "Wondrous" Werner can. It seeems to me that if a combination of Don, Werner and Jim Steranko could be used on the X-Men the artwork would be mind-shattering. There were only two items that pleased me in ish #53. The mention that the new logo on the cover is being kept and the X-Men are back together again for keeps. Janet Blair, 26 Stafford St. Hartford, Connecticut 06106

You know it, Jan!

Bashful Barry Smith, who (as we've said before) produced that one and only X-MEN ish under the worst of possible circumstances, is since doing much better work on THE AVENGERS . . , and we have other big things in store for him as his penciling prowess grows by leaps and bounds.

Now, let us know what you think of the brand new team of Thomas, Adams, and Palmer? And, y'know what — we've got a hunch that you're gonna dig 'em, maybe almost as much as we do!



Dear Stan and Don,

Magneto has appeared in so many X-Men Comics, why don't you put him up in the corner with the X-Men? He has appeared in X-Men #1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 17, 18, 43, 44, 45, 50, 51, 52; all in all, 14 issues, about 11% of the all time total. The next closest menace is probably the Evil Mutants.

Don't think I'm trying to tell you how to run your business, but Magneto is not anywhere as pretty as Marvel Girl. I would also like to know when you are going to print an X-Men annual. I think they deserve one.

David Tatum, 4400 Sunrey Ave.

Bowershill Chesapeake, Virginia 23321

So do we, Davy, and one of these years now they're just likely to have one. In the meantime, if you want to relive some of those hallowed hallmarks of yesteryear, we suggest you pick up current issues of MAR-VEL SUPER-MEROES, which are reprinting some of the early and acclaimed Lee-Kirby X-Men and Avengers epics! If you can't have an annual just yet, friend, they're the next best thing!



Dear Stan and Jim, X-Men #49 — WOW! X-Men #50 — DOUBLE WOW!

X-Men #51 - ZOWIE!

X-Men #52 - couldn't be better! Daughter of Magnetol And we never suspected! As a matter of fact I didn't even think Magneto was alive! But tell me, is Eric the Red an old villain or new? Jim's artwork is different and at first! didn't like it but I'll get used to it! I miss your witty and delectable answers! Please bring them back!! Til the Angel grows tailfeathers . . . I'm yours

RFO, KOF Doug Earl, 186 Main Street Simcoe, Ontario, Canada

And since you are, Doug, you're in even better position to appreciate the return of our nutty answers to the more interesting letters we receive. Only thing is, all of the questions — stated or implied — in your letter were already answered in issues of X-MEN which you've already seen by now, so we'll merely take our





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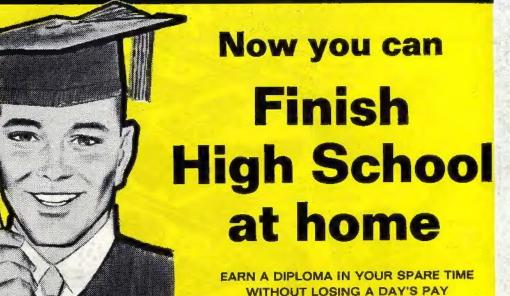
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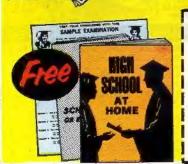
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